RSAC 2025 Conference

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SESSION ID: CSO-M02

# CISO Whistleblower: Navigating Ethical Challenges in Cybersecurity


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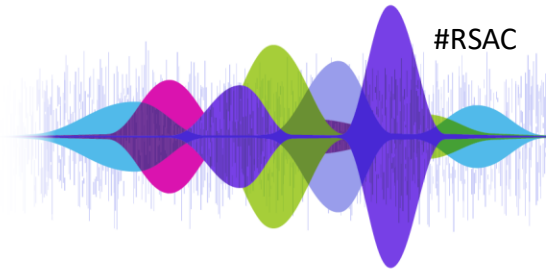

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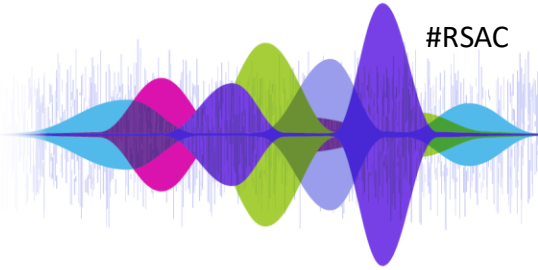
# Apply:
# Pragmatic Steps to Protect Yourself

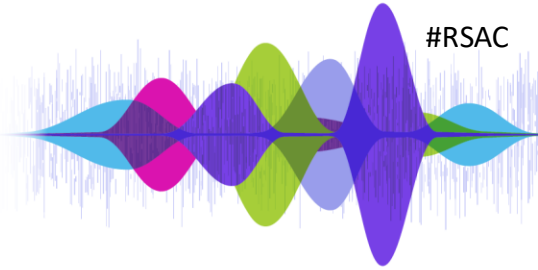


- **Document, document, document.** Remember that anything written down can be subpoenaed.
- Find out about **D&O insurance** in your organization. Make sure you get it in writing that you are covered.
- Consider **Personal Legal Liability insurance**, whether through your organization, through a professional association, or individual.

# APPLY:
# Before making any disclosures

- Document everything thoroughly
- Understand your legal rights and protections
- Consider consulting with an employment lawyer or whistleblower organization
- Know the proper reporting channels and procedures
- Be aware of time limits for filing complaints
- Use secure communication methods when possible
- Keep secure copies of all evidence and communications
- Consider the mental and emotional journey in the process

# Apply:
# Whistleblower Resources:





**For U.S. Federal Government Misconduct:**

- Office of Special Counsel (OSC): https://osc.gov/Pages/File-Complaint-Portal.aspx
- Government Accountability Office (GAO): https://www.gao.gov/about/what-gao-does/fraud
- List of Federal Inspector General Hotlines: https://www.oversight.gov/where-report-fraud-waste-abuse-or-retaliation

**For Corporate/Private Sector:**

- SEC Whistleblower Program: https://www.sec.gov/whistleblower
- OSHA Whistleblower Protection Program: https://www.whistleblowers.gov
- CFPB Whistleblower Program: https://www.consumerfinance.gov/enforcement/information-industry-whistleblowers/
- IRS Whistleblower Office: https://www.irs.gov/compliance/whistleblower-office

**Non-Profit Support Organizations:**

- Government Accountability Project: https://whistleblower.org
- National Whistleblower Center: https://www.whistleblowers.org
- Project on Government Oversight: https://www.pogo.org

**International Resources:**

- Transparency International: https://www.transparency.org/en
- International Whistleblowing Research Network: https://www.whistleblowingnetwork.org

**State-Level Resources:**

Each state has its own whistleblower protection offices and reporting mechanisms.

You can find your state's resources through the National Conference of State Legislatures: https://www.ncsl.org

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# THANK YOU

## For Additional Information:

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